

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
AIR QUALITY DIVISION  
ACTIVITY REPORT: On-site Inspection

P092064816

<b>FACILITY:</b> Wolverine Scrap Metal		<b>SRN / ID:</b> P0920
<b>LOCATION:</b> 1721 Chicago Drive SW, GRAND RAPIDS		<b>DISTRICT:</b> Grand Rapids
<b>CITY:</b> GRAND RAPIDS		<b>COUNTY:</b> KENT
<b>CONTACT:</b> Scott Hosford , President		<b>ACTIVITY DATE:</b> 09/07/2022
<b>STAFF:</b> Michael Cox	<b>COMPLIANCE STATUS:</b> Non Compliance	<b>SOURCE CLASS:</b> MINOR
<b>SUBJECT:</b> Self Initiated Inspection		
<b>RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:</b> C-22-01726, C-22-01727		

Air Quality Division (AQD) staff Michael Cox (MTC) completed a self-initiated inspection of Wolverine Scrap Metal Company (WSM) at 2:00 pm on September 7, 2022, in response to a complaint of open burning in the area.

### Facility Description

WSM is a metal scrapyards company. The facility receives scrap metals including aluminum, iron, stainless steel, brass, and copper from various locations. The metal is cut down to acceptable sizes and shipped to foundries where the materials are reused. WSM is an unpermitted facility.

### Compliance Evaluation

Upon entering the facility, AQD staff MTC met with Mr. Scott Hosford, President, and explained the visit was in response to an open burning complaint in the area. Mr. Hosford stated that it was likely the torch cutting process of scrap metal and that an oil pocket or grease had caught fire. Mr. Hosford provided a walk-through of the facility and answered site specific questions. Follow up phone conversations were completed with Mr. Scott Hosford, President, regarding torch cutting and requested records. The following observations were made during the facility walk through.

Scrap metal received by WSM is cut to size if needed by several torch cutters prior to shipping them off site. The torch cutters are located in the exterior portions of the facility. In a letter to WSM dated March 24, 2017, it was stated to the company that changes were being made to the Rule 285 Permit to Install exemption for portable torch cutting. The most recent torch cutter that was purchased by WSM was during the 2015 calendar year. Maintenance and purchase records were requested and provided by WSM for the time period of January 2021 through August 2022. The maintenance and purchase records provided identified several purchases of torch cutting tips and maintenance related activities conducted to the torch cutters. Based on the review of the records provided it appears that WSM has reconstructed the torch cutters since January 2017 when the amended Rule 282(2)(j) took effect. This is a violation of Rule 201 permitting, and a subsequent Violation Notice will be issued to the facility.

### Conclusion

Based on the observations made during the facility walkthrough, and the records received, it was concluded that Wolverine Scrap Metal Company appears to be out of

**compliance with applicable air quality rules. A Violation Notice was sent to the facility regarding the referenced violation above.**

NAME Michael T. Cox

DATE 9/27/2022

SUPERVISOR HH